

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Is there enough beds for the in-patients?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—This question has been answered.

Grant-in-aid dispensaries.

375. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) when grant-in-aid dispensaries were first started in the State;

(b) how many of them are there now?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(a) In 1103.

(b) 18.

Conversion of the grant-in-aid dispensary at Pazhanji into a Government dispensary.

376. Mr. T. C. Iyyukutty.—Will the Government be pleased to state the difficulties on the Government side to convert the present grant-in-aid dispensary, Pazhanji, into a Government dispensary?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Stringency of funds is the chief reason as it would mean an initial cost of about Rs. 15,000 and a recurring expenditure of about Rs. 5,000 per annum.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know what the average attendance of patients in this Hospital is?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—The number was given in answer to a question yesterday. It will be about 25 or 30.

Remarks of the Honorary visitor to the Chalakkudi Hospital, His Highness the 21st Prince.

377. Mr. A. V. Moothedan.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the remarks made by the Honorary visitor to the Chalakkudi Hospital, His Highness the 21st Prince of Cochin last year;

(b) was any action taken on it?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(a) Yes. A copy is placed on the table.

(b) The improvements referred to will be taken up as funds permit.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan.—Are not the improvements suggested by His Highness important?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—They are.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan.—Are they not urgent also?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—There are more urgent works to be attended to in the Department.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan.—Will the Government expedite them?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—They will try their level best.

Agreements with Medical Practitioners for supply of medicines.

378. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether one of the agreements with Medical Practitioners is not that they will be supplied with medicines worth Rs. 360 a year free of charge;

(b) is any amount now deducted from this cost of medicines; and if so, on what account and how much?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(a) Yes.

(b) The rates supplied to the Medical Practitioners for the preparation of the indents do not include the cost of the containers and transport. Hence Rs. 5 towards the cost of the containers and Rs. 8 towards railway freight in the case of the institutions where the consignment has to be sent by rail and Rs. 6 for those institutions where it has to be sent otherwise, are set apart for these purposes.

Thazhakkad Bazaar Road—improvement of.

379. Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen.—Will the Government state:—

(1) whether any allotment was made in 1109 and 1110 budgets for the work of widening and improvement of “Thazhakkad Bazaar Road” in Kattur Village;

(2) whether the work has been started;

(3) if not, why?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) No.